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Non-A, non-B hepatitis virus particles.

Disclosed are an isolated non-A, non-B hepatitis virus particle comprising at least one antigen selected from the group consisting of a core antigen, a matrix antigen and an envelope antigen of the non-A, non-B hepatitis virus and a method for efficiently producing the same by genetic engineering. The non-A, non-B hepatitis virus particle can advantageously be used not only for the production of an NANBV hepatitis vaccine exhibiting an extremely high immunogenicity and a diagnostic agent which is extremely high in the antibody detection ratio and in the degree of accuracy of the detection, but is also useful for researches on liver diseases, such as liver cancer.

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5)
D,X	JAPAN. J. EXP. MED. vol. 60, no. 3, 1990, pages 167-177, JP; H. OKAMOTO et al.: "The 5'-terminal sequence of the hepatitis C virus genome" * whole document * ---	1-3,14,15	C 12 N 15/40 C 12 Q 1/70 A 61 K 39/29 C 07 K 15/00 G 01 N 33/569
D,A	EP-A-0 318 216 (CHIRON CORPORATION) * whole document * ---	1,4,9,14-20	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 18-10-1991	Examiner JULIA P.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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